

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Cancel claims 1, 8, and 15 without prejudice.
Amend claims 2-7, 9-14, and 16-21 as follows.
Add the following new claims 22-39.

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (Canceled)

1 2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4 3, further
2 comprising:
3 ordering the text list in a sequence to place texts with shared
4 prefixes adjacent one to another in the sequence.

1 3. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1,~~ A computer-
2 implemented method for identifying in a list of texts those texts whose edit
3 distance from a search string is less than a threshold value, said method
4 comprising:
5 (a) obtaining by a computer the search string and the threshold
6 value;
7 (b) selecting by the computer a first text from the list of texts as a
8 present computation text;
9 (c) computing by the computer, column-by-column, a grid of edit
10 distance values between the search string and the present computation
11 text, wherein the step of computing further comprises the steps of:
12 after an individual column is computed, identifying a range of rows
13 of the grid extending from a first row that includes a cell of the individual
14 column that has an edit distance value lower than the threshold value to a
15 last row that includes a cell of the individual column that has an edit
16 distance value lower than the threshold value;

17 in a next column, not computing the edit distance values of the cells
18 in rows of the grid that are below this range, in response to a border cell of
19 the next column having an edit distance value at least equal to the
20 threshold value;

21 in the next column, computing the edit distance values of the cells
22 in rows of the grid that are below this range, in response to the border cell
23 of the next column having an edit distance value lower than the threshold
24 value;

25 in the next column, computing the edit distance values of the cells
26 in rows of the grid that are in this range and one higher; and

27 in the next column, computing the edit distance value of each of the
28 individual cells in rows of the grid that are above this range, based only on
29 the edit distance value of a cell that is below the individual cell, only until a
30 cell with an edit distance value at least equal to the threshold value is
31 ~~computed.~~ computed;

32 (d) stopping the computing in response to computing a column
33 whose minimum value of edit distance is at least the threshold value;

34 (e) in response to completing the computing and the computed edit
35 distance from the present computation text to the search string being
36 below the threshold value, generating by the computer an indication that
37 the edit distance of the present computation text from the search string is
38 less than the threshold value;

39 (f) in response to either stopping the computing, or completing the
40 computing and the edit distance from the present computation text to the
41 search string not being below the threshold value, generating by the
42 computer an indication that the edit distance of the present computation
43 text from the search string is not less than the threshold value;

44 (g) in response to completing the computing, selecting by the
45 computer a next text, in the list after the present computation text, as the
46 present computation text;

47 (h) in response to stopping the computing, selecting by the
48 computer a next text, in the list after the present computation text, that
49 does not share with the present computation text a prefix corresponding to
50 columns of the grid up to and including the column whose minimum value
51 of edit distance is at least the threshold value, as the present computation
52 text;

53 (i) in response to step (h), returning to step (c);

54 (j) in response to step (g), returning to step (c), but re-using in step
55 (c) columns of the grid computed for previous said computation text that
56 correspond to any prefix shared by the previous computation text and the
57 present computation text; and

58 (k) continuing to perform steps (c) through (j) until step (g) or step
59 (h) reaches an end of the text list.

1 4. **(Currently amended)** ~~The method of claim 1,~~ A computer-
2 implemented method for identifying in a list of texts those texts whose edit
3 distance from a search string is less than a threshold value, said method
4 comprising:

5 (a) obtaining by a computer the search string and the threshold
6 value;

7 (b) selecting by the computer a first text from the list of texts as a
8 present computation text;

9 (c) computing by the computer, column-by-column, a grid of edit
10 distance values between the search string and the present computation
11 text, wherein the columns of the grid correspond to characters of the
12 computation text and rows of the grid correspond to characters of the
13 search string, the method further comprising the steps of: string;

14 (d) stopping the computing in response to computing a column
15 whose minimum value of edit distance is at least the threshold value;

16 (e) in response to completing the computing and the computed edit
17 distance from the present computation text to the search string being
18 below the threshold value, generating by the computer an indication that
19 the edit distance of the present computation text from the search string is
20 less than the threshold value;

21 (f) in response to either stopping the computing, or completing the
22 computing and the edit distance from the present computation text to the
23 search string not being below the threshold value, generating by the
24 computer an indication that the edit distance of the present computation
25 text from the search string is not less than the threshold value;

26 (g) in response to completing the computing, selecting by the
27 computer a next text, in the list after the present computation text, as the
28 present computation text;

29 (h) in response to stopping the computing, selecting by the
30 computer a next text, in the list after the present computation text, that
31 does not share with the present computation text a prefix corresponding to
32 columns of the grid up to and including the column whose minimum value
33 of edit distance is at least the threshold value, as the present computation
34 text;

35 (i) in response to step (h), returning to step (c);

36 (j) in response to step (g), returning to step (c), but re-using in step
37 (c) columns of the grid computed for previous said computation text that
38 correspond to any prefix shared by the previous computation text and the
39 present computation text;

40 (k) continuing to perform steps (c) through (j) until step (g) or step
41 (h) reaches an end of the text list;

42 (l) making an alternative list of texts to an original said list of texts in
43 which each occurrence in the texts of a character in a set of characters is
44 replaced by a determined character in the set;

45 (m) in response to the search string lacking all characters in said
46 set of characters, using the alternative list of texts rather than the original
47 list of texts to identify those texts whose edit distance from the search
48 string is less than the threshold value; and

49 (n) in response to the search string not lacking all characters in said
50 set, using the original list of texts to identify those texts whose edit
51 distance from the search string is less than the threshold value.

1 **5. (Currently amended)** ~~The method of claim 1,~~ A computer-
2 implemented method for identifying in a list of texts those texts whose edit
3 distance from a search string is less than a threshold value, said method
4 comprising:

5 (a) obtaining by a computer the search string and the threshold
6 value;

7 (b) selecting by the computer a first text from the list of texts as a
8 present computation text;

9 (c) computing by the computer, column-by-column, a grid of edit
10 distance values between the search string and the present computation
11 text, wherein the columns of the grid correspond to characters of the
12 computation text and rows of the grid correspond to characters of the
13 search string, and wherein the step of computing comprises the steps of:
14 re-using a column of the grid of the previous computation text for an
15 individual column of the grid of the present computation text, in response
16 to the present computation text not being a first said selected computation
17 text and a preceding column of the grid of the present computation text
18 having same edit distance values as a preceding column of the grid of the
19 previous computation text, and at least one of the following conditions
20 being true:

21 the character corresponding to the individual column of the grid of
22 the present computation text and the character corresponding to the

23 column of the previous computation text are both a same character and
24 not a part of a prefix shared by the previous computation text and the
25 present computation text,
26 the search string lacks the character corresponding to the individual
27 column of the grid of the present computation text and the character
28 corresponding to the column of the previous computation text; and
29 otherwise computing the individual column of the grid of the present
30 computation ~~text~~ text;
31 (d) stopping the computing in response to computing a column
32 whose minimum value of edit distance is at least the threshold value;
33 (e) in response to completing the computing and the computed edit
34 distance from the present computation text to the search string being
35 below the threshold value, generating by the computer an indication that
36 the edit distance of the present computation text from the search string is
37 less than the threshold value;
38 (f) in response to either stopping the computing, or completing the
39 computing and the edit distance from the present computation text to the
40 search string not being below the threshold value, generating by the
41 computer an indication that the edit distance of the present computation
42 text from the search string is not less than the threshold value;
43 (g) in response to completing the computing, selecting by the
44 computer a next text, in the list after the present computation text, as the
45 present computation text;
46 (h) in response to stopping the computing, selecting by the
47 computer a next text, in the list after the present computation text, that
48 does not share with the present computation text a prefix corresponding to
49 columns of the grid up to and including the column whose minimum value
50 of edit distance is at least the threshold value, as the present computation
51 text;
52 (i) in response to step (h), returning to step (c);

53 (i) in response to step (g), returning to step (c), but re-using in step
54 (c) columns of the grid computed for previous said computation text that
55 correspond to any prefix shared by the previous computation text and the
56 present computation text; and
57 (k) continuing to perform steps (c) through (i) until step (g) or step
58 (h) reaches an end of the text list.

1 6. **(Currently amended)** The method of claim 4 3, further
2 comprising:
3 prior to step (b), sorting the texts in the list in lexicographical order.

1 7. **(Currently amended)** The method of claim 4 3 wherein:
2 computing comprises
3 using dynamic programming to perform the computing.

1 8. **(Canceled)**

1 9. **(Currently amended)** The system of claim 8 10, wherein the
2 computer is operable to:
3 order the text list in a sequence to place texts with shared prefixes
4 adjacent one to another in the sequence.

1 10. **(Currently amended)** ~~The system of claim 8,~~ A system for
2 identifying in a list of texts those texts whose edit distance from a search
3 string is less than a threshold value, said system comprising:
4 a computer operable to
5 (a) obtain the search string and the threshold value;
6 (b) select a first text from the list of texts as a present computation
7 text;

8 (c) compute, column-by-column, a grid of edit distance values
9 between the search string and the present computation text;
10 wherein the computer is operable at step (c) to:
11 after an individual column is computed, identify a range of rows of
12 the grid extending from a first row that includes a cell of the individual
13 column that has an edit distance value lower than the threshold value to a
14 last row that includes a cell of the individual column that has an edit
15 distance value lower than the threshold value;
16 in a next column, not compute the edit distance values of the cells
17 in rows of the grid that are below this range, in response to a border cell of
18 the next column having an edit distance value at least equal to the
19 threshold value;
20 in the next column, compute the edit distance values of the cells in
21 rows of the grid that are below this range, in response to the border cell of
22 the next column having an edit distance value lower than the threshold
23 value;
24 in the next column, compute the edit distance values of the cells in
25 rows of the grid that are in this range and one higher; and
26 in the next column, compute the edit distance value of each of the
27 individual cells in rows of the grid that are above this range, based only on
28 the edit distance value of a cell that is below the individual cell, only until a
29 cell with an edit distance value at least equal to the threshold value is
30 ~~computed.~~ computed;
31 (d) stop the computing in response to computing a column whose
32 minimum value of edit distance is at least the threshold value;
33 (e) in response to completing the computing and the computed edit
34 distance from the present computation text to the search string being
35 below the threshold value, generate an indication that the edit distance of
36 the present computation text from the search string is less than the
37 threshold value;

- 38 (f) in response to either stopping the computing, or completing the
39 computing and the edit distance from the present computation text to the
40 search string not being below the threshold value, generate an indication
41 that the edit distance of the present computation text from the search
42 string is not less than the threshold value;
- 43 (g) in response to completing the computing, select a next text, in
44 the list after the present computation text, as the present computation text;
- 45 (h) in response to stopping the computing, select a next text, in the
46 list after the present computation text, that does not share with the present
47 computation text a prefix corresponding to columns of the grid up to and
48 including the column whose minimum value of edit distance is at least the
49 threshold value, as the present computation text;
- 50 (i) in response to step (h), return to step (c);
- 51 (j) in response to step (g), return to step (c), but re-using in step (c)
52 columns of the grid computed for previous said computation text that
53 correspond to any prefix shared by the previous computation text and the
54 present computation text; and
- 55 (k) continue to perform steps (c) through (j) until step (g) or step (h)
56 reaches an end of the text list.

- 1 11. **(Currently amended)** The system of claim 8, A system for
2 identifying in a list of texts those texts whose edit distance from a search
3 string is less than a threshold value, said system comprising:
- 4 a computer operable to
- 5 (a) obtain the search string and the threshold value;
- 6 (b) select a first text from the list of texts as a present computation
7 text;
- 8 (c) compute, column-by-column, a grid of edit distance values
9 between the search string and the present computation text, wherein the
10 columns of the grid correspond to characters of the computation text and

11 rows of the grid correspond to characters of the search string, and wherein
12 the computer is further operable to: string;

13 (d) stop the computing in response to computing a column whose
14 minimum value of edit distance is at least the threshold value;

15 (e) in response to completing the computing and the computed edit
16 distance from the present computation text to the search string being
17 below the threshold value, generate an indication that the edit distance of
18 the present computation text from the search string is less than the
19 threshold value;

20 (f) in response to either stopping the computing, or completing the
21 computing and the edit distance from the present computation text to the
22 search string not being below the threshold value, generate an indication
23 that the edit distance of the present computation text from the search
24 string is not less than the threshold value;

25 (g) in response to completing the computing, select a next text, in
26 the list after the present computation text, as the present computation text;

27 (h) in response to stopping the computing, select a next text, in the
28 list after the present computation text, that does not share with the present
29 computation text a prefix corresponding to columns of the grid up to and
30 including the column whose minimum value of edit distance is at least the
31 threshold value, as the present computation text;

32 (i) in response to step (h), return to step (c);

33 (j) in response to step (g), return to step (c), but re-using in step (c)
34 columns of the grid computed for previous said computation text that
35 correspond to any prefix shared by the previous computation text and the
36 present computation text;

37 (k) continue to perform steps (c) through (j) until step (g) or step (h)
38 reaches an end of the text list;

39 (l) make an alternative list of texts to an original said list of texts in
40 which each occurrence in the texts of a character in a set of characters is
41 replaced by a determined character in the set;
42 (m) in response to the search string lacking all characters in said
43 set of characters, use the alternative list of texts rather than the original list
44 of texts to identify those texts whose edit distance from the search string is
45 less than the threshold value; and
46 (n) in response to the search string not lacking all characters in said
47 set, use the original list of texts to identify those texts whose edit distance
48 from the search string is less than the threshold value.

1 12. **(Currently amended)** ~~The system of claim 8,~~ A system for
2 identifying in a list of texts those texts whose edit distance from a search
3 string is less than a threshold value, said system comprising:
4 a computer operable to
5 (a) obtain the search string and the threshold value;
6 (b) select a first text from the list of texts as a present computation
7 text;
8 (c) compute, column-by-column, a grid of edit distance values
9 between the search string and the present computation text, wherein the
10 columns of the grid correspond to characters of the computation text and
11 rows of the grid correspond to characters of the search string, and wherein
12 the computer is operable at step (c) to:
13 re-use a column of the grid of the previous computation text for an
14 individual column of the grid of the present computation text, in response
15 to the present computation text not being a first said selected computation
16 text and a preceding column of the grid of the present computation text
17 having same edit distance values as a preceding column of the grid of the
18 previous computation text, and at least one of the following conditions
19 being true:

20 the character corresponding to the individual column of the grid of
21 the present computation text and the character corresponding to the
22 column of the previous computation text are both a same character and
23 not a part of a prefix shared by the previous computation text and the
24 present computation text,

25 the search string lacks the character corresponding to the individual
26 column of the grid of the present computation text and the character
27 corresponding to the column of the previous computation text; and

28 otherwise compute the individual column of the grid of the present
29 computation text; text;

30 (d) stop the computing in response to computing a column whose
31 minimum value of edit distance is at least the threshold value;

32 (e) in response to completing the computing and the computed edit
33 distance from the present computation text to the search string being
34 below the threshold value, generate an indication that the edit distance of
35 the present computation text from the search string is less than the
36 threshold value;

37 (f) in response to either stopping the computing, or completing the
38 computing and the edit distance from the present computation text to the
39 search string not being below the threshold value, generate an indication
40 that the edit distance of the present computation text from the search
41 string is not less than the threshold value;

42 (g) in response to completing the computing, select a next text, in
43 the list after the present computation text, as the present computation text;

44 (h) in response to stopping the computing, select a next text, in the
45 list after the present computation text, that does not share with the present
46 computation text a prefix corresponding to columns of the grid up to and
47 including the column whose minimum value of edit distance is at least the
48 threshold value, as the present computation text;

49 (i) in response to step (h), return to step (c);

50 (j) in response to step (g), return to step (c), but re-using in step (c)
51 columns of the grid computed for previous said computation text that
52 correspond to any prefix shared by the previous computation text and the
53 present computation text; and
54 (k) continue to perform steps (c) through (j) until step (g) or step (h)
55 reaches an end of the text list.

1 13. **(Currently amended)** The system of claim 8 10, wherein
2 the computer is further operable to:
3 prior to step (b), sort the texts in the list in lexicographical order.

1 14. **(Currently amended)** The system of claim 8 10, wherein:
2 the computer is adapted to use dynamic programming to ~~computer~~
3 compute the grid.

1 15. **(Canceled)**

1 16. **(Currently amended)** The medium of claim ~~15~~ 17, further
2 containing instructions which cause the computer to perform:
3 ordering the text list in a sequence to place texts with shared
4 prefixes adjacent one to another in the sequence.

1 17. **(Currently amended)** ~~The medium claim 15,~~ A computer-
2 readable medium containing instructions which, when executed by a
3 computer, cause the computer to identify in a list of texts those texts
4 whose edit distance from a search string is less than a threshold value, by
5 performing steps comprising:
6 (a) obtaining the search string and the threshold value;
7 (b) selecting a first text from the list of texts as a present
8 computation text;

9 (c) computing, column-by-column, a grid of edit distance values
10 between the search string and the present computation text;
11 wherein the instructions cause the computer to perform the step of
12 computing by further performing steps comprising:
13 after an individual column is computed, identifying a range of rows
14 of the grid extending from a first row that includes a cell of the individual
15 column that has an edit distance value lower than the threshold value to a
16 last row that includes a cell of the individual column that has an edit
17 distance value lower than the threshold value;
18 in a next column, not computing the edit distance values of the cells
19 in rows of the grid that are below this range, in response to a border cell of
20 the next column having an edit distance value at least equal to the
21 threshold value;
22 in the next column, computing the edit distance values of the cells
23 in rows of the grid that are below this range, in response to the border cell
24 of the next column having an edit distance value lower than the threshold
25 value;
26 in the next column, computing the edit distance values of the cells
27 in rows of the grid that are in this range and one higher; and
28 in the next column, computing the edit distance value of each of the
29 individual cells in rows of the grid that are above this range, based only on
30 the edit distance value of a cell that is below the individual cell, only until a
31 cell with an edit distance value at least equal to the threshold value is
32 ~~computed-~~ computed;
33 (d) stopping the computing in response to computing a column
34 whose minimum value of edit distance is at least the threshold value;
35 (e) in response to completing the computing and the computed edit
36 distance from the present computation text to the search string being
37 below the threshold value, generating an indication that the edit distance

38 of the present computation text from the search string is less than the
39 threshold value;
40 (f) in response to either stopping the computing, or completing the
41 computing and the edit distance from the present computation text to the
42 search string not being below the threshold value, generating an indication
43 that the edit distance of the present computation text from the search
44 string is not less than the threshold value;
45 (g) in response to completing the computing, selecting a next text,
46 in the list after the present computation text, as the present computation
47 text;
48 (h) in response to stopping the computing, selecting a next text, in
49 the list after the present computation text, that does not share with the
50 present computation text a prefix corresponding to columns of the grid up
51 to and including the column whose minimum value of edit distance is at
52 least the threshold value, as the present computation text;
53 (i) in response to step (h), returning to step (c)
54 (j) in response to step (g), returning to step (c), but re-using in step
55 (c) columns of the grid computed for previous said computation text that
56 correspond to any prefix shared by the previous computation text and the
57 present computation text; and
58 (k) continuing to perform steps (c) through (j) until step (g) or step
59 (h) reaches an end of the text list.

1 18. **(Currently amended)** ~~The medium of claim 15,~~ A computer-
2 readable medium containing instructions which, when executed by a
3 computer, cause the computer to identify in a list of texts those texts
4 whose edit distance from a search string is less than a threshold value, by
5 performing steps comprising:
6 (a) obtaining the search string and the threshold value;

- 7 (b) selecting a first text from the list of texts as a present
8 computation text;
- 9 (c) computing, column-by-column, a grid of edit distance values
10 between the search string and the present computation text, wherein the
11 columns of the grid correspond to characters of the computation text and
12 rows of the grid correspond to characters of the search string, ~~the medium~~
13 ~~further containing instructions which cause the computer to perform steps~~
14 ~~comprising:~~ string;
- 15 (d) stopping the computing in response to computing a column
16 whose minimum value of edit distance is at least the threshold value;
- 17 (e) in response to completing the computing and the computed edit
18 distance from the present computation text to the search string being
19 below the threshold value, generating an indication that the edit distance
20 of the present computation text from the search string is less than the
21 threshold value;
- 22 (f) in response to either stopping the computing, or completing the
23 computing and the edit distance from the present computation text to the
24 search string not being below the threshold value, generating an indication
25 that the edit distance of the present computation text from the search
26 string is not less than the threshold value;
- 27 (g) in response to completing the computing, selecting a next text,
28 in the list after the present computation text, as the present computation
29 text;
- 30 (h) in response to stopping the computing, selecting a next text, in
31 the list after the present computation text, that does not share with the
32 present computation text a prefix corresponding to columns of the grid up
33 to and including the column whose minimum value of edit distance is at
34 least the threshold value, as the present computation text;
- 35 (i) in response to step (h), returning to step (c)

36 (j) in response to step (g), returning to step (c), but re-using in step
37 (c) columns of the grid computed for previous said computation text that
38 correspond to any prefix shared by the previous computation text and the
39 present computation text;

40 (k) continuing to perform steps (c) through (j) until step (g) or step
41 (h) reaches an end of the text list;

42 (l) making an alternative list of texts to an original said list of texts in
43 which each occurrence in the texts of a character in a set of characters is
44 replaced by a determined character in the set;

45 (m) in response to the search string lacking all characters in said
46 set of characters, using the alternative list of texts rather than the original
47 list of texts to identify those texts whose edit distance from the search
48 string is less than the threshold value; and

49 (n) in response to the search string not lacking all characters in said
50 set, using the original list of texts to identify those texts whose edit
51 distance from the search string is less than the threshold value.

1 19. **(Currently amended)** ~~The medium of claim 15, A computer-~~
2 readable medium containing instructions which, when executed by a
3 computer, cause the computer to identify in a list of texts those texts
4 whose edit distance from a search string is less than a threshold value, by
5 performing steps comprising:

6 (a) obtaining the search string and the threshold value;

7 (b) selecting a first text from the list of texts as a present
8 computation text;

9 (c) computing, column-by-column, a grid of edit distance values
10 between the search string and the present computation text, wherein the
11 columns of the grid correspond to characters of the computation text and
12 rows of the grid correspond to characters of the search string, and wherein

13 the instructions cause the computer to perform the step of computing by
14 performing steps comprising:
15 re-using a column of the grid of the previous computation text for an
16 individual column of the grid of the present computation text, in response
17 to the present computation text not being a first said selected computation
18 text and a preceding column of the grid of the present computation text
19 having same edit distance values as a preceding column of the grid of the
20 previous computation text, and at least one of the following conditions
21 being true:
22 the character corresponding to the individual column of the grid of
23 the present computation text and the character corresponding to the
24 column of the previous computation text are both a same character and
25 not a part of a prefix shared by the previous computation text and the
26 present computation text,
27 the search string lacks the character corresponding to the individual
28 column of the grid of the present computation text and the character
29 corresponding to the column of the previous computation text; and
30 otherwise computing the individual column of the grid of the present
31 computation ~~text~~ text;
32 (d) stopping the computing in response to computing a column
33 whose minimum value of edit distance is at least the threshold value;
34 (e) in response to completing the computing and the computed edit
35 distance from the present computation text to the search string being
36 below the threshold value, generating an indication that the edit distance
37 of the present computation text from the search string is less than the
38 threshold value;
39 (f) in response to either stopping the computing, or completing the
40 computing and the edit distance from the present computation text to the
41 search string not being below the threshold value, generating an indication

42 that the edit distance of the present computation text from the search
43 string is not less than the threshold value;
44 (g) in response to completing the computing, selecting a next text,
45 in the list after the present computation text, as the present computation
46 text;
47 (h) in response to stopping the computing, selecting a next text, in
48 the list after the present computation text, that does not share with the
49 present computation text a prefix corresponding to columns of the grid up
50 to and including the column whose minimum value of edit distance is at
51 least the threshold value, as the present computation text;
52 (i) in response to step (h), returning to step (c)
53 (j) in response to step (g), returning to step (c), but re-using in step
54 (c) columns of the grid computed for previous said computation text that
55 correspond to any prefix shared by the previous computation text and the
56 present computation text; and
57 (k) continuing to perform steps (c) through (j) until step (g) or step
58 (h) reaches an end of the text list.

1 20. **(Currently amended)** The medium of claim 45 17, further
2 containing instructions which cause the computer to perform:
3 prior to step (b), sorting the texts in the list in lexicographical order.

1 21. **(Currently amended)** The medium of claim 45 17 wherein the
2 instructions cause the computer to perform the step of computing by using
3 dynamic programming.

1 22. **(New)** The method of claim 4, further comprising:
2 ordering the text list in a sequence to place texts with shared
3 prefixes adjacent one to another in the sequence.

1 23. **(New)** The method of claim 4, further comprising:
2 prior to step (b), sorting the texts in the list in lexicographical order.

1 24. **(New)** The method of claim 4 wherein:
2 computing comprises
3 using dynamic programming to perform the computing.

1 25. **(New)** The method of claim 5, further comprising:
2 ordering the text list in a sequence to place texts with shared
3 prefixes adjacent one to another in the sequence.

1 26. **(New)** The method of claim 5, further comprising:
2 prior to step (b), sorting the texts in the list in lexicographical order.

1 27. **(New)** The method of claim 5 wherein:
2 computing comprises
3 using dynamic programming to perform the computing.

1 28. **(New)** The system of claim 11, wherein the computer is
2 operable to:
3 order the text list in a sequence to place texts with shared prefixes
4 adjacent one to another in the sequence.

1 29. **(New)** The system of claim 11, wherein the computer is further
2 operable to:
3 prior to step (b), sort the texts in the list in lexicographical order.

1 30. **(New)** The system of claim 11, wherein:
2 the computer is adapted to use dynamic programming to compute
3 the grid.

1 31. **(New)** The system of claim 12, wherein the computer is
2 operable to:
3 order the text list in a sequence to place texts with shared prefixes
4 adjacent one to another in the sequence.

1 32. **(New)** The system of claim 12, wherein the computer is further
2 operable to:
3 prior to step (b), sort the texts in the list in lexicographical order.

1 33. **(New)** The system of claim 12, wherein:
2 the computer is adapted to use dynamic programming to compute
3 the grid.

1 34. **(New)** The medium of claim 18, further containing instructions
2 which cause the computer to perform:
3 ordering the text list in a sequence to place texts with shared
4 prefixes adjacent one to another in the sequence.

1 35. **(New)** The medium of claim 18, further containing instructions
2 which cause the computer to perform:
3 prior to step (b), sorting the texts in the list in lexicographical order.

1 36. **(New)** The medium of claim 18 wherein the instructions cause
2 the computer to perform the step of computing by using dynamic
3 programming.

1 37. **(New)** The medium of claim 19, further containing instructions
2 which cause the computer to perform:
3 ordering the text list in a sequence to place texts with shared
4 prefixes adjacent one to another in the sequence.

1 38. **(New)** The medium of claim 19, further containing instructions
2 which cause the computer to perform:
3 prior to step (b), sorting the texts in the list in lexicographical order.

1 39. **(New)** The medium of claim 19 wherein the instructions cause
2 the computer to perform the step of computing by using dynamic
3 programming.